

**Division of Children and Family Services
Program Enhancement Plan
Out-of-Home Care Committee
December 5, 2005**

Proposed Change to Ch. HFS 56, Adm. Rule, "Foster Home Care for Children"

The following language change is being proposed to Ch. HFS 56, Adm. Rule in response to PEP Item D.3.1) "Propose elimination of the current limit of 6 children in foster homes to accommodate placement of siblings."

(14) "Foster home" means any facility operated by a person required to be licensed under s. 48.62(1)(a), Stats., in which care and maintenance are provided for no more than 4 foster children or, if necessary to keep siblings together, for not more than 6 foster children. For the purposes of maintaining sibling connections, licensing agencies may grant an exception to allow more than 6 but no more than 8 foster children in a foster home. Licensing agencies can apply to the department exceptions panel to place more than 8 children in a foster home if necessary to keep siblings together. Agencies must follow the requirements established in 56.02(2) when granting or requesting an exception under this section.

Note: In order to exceed the limit of four children placed in a foster home, a child must be related to one of the four initial children placed in the foster home.

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